

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants:	Timothy R. Heindel et al.	Docket	11,589.3
Serial No.:	Unknown	Group:	Unknown
Filed:	Herewith	Examiner:	Unknown
For:	PROCESS OF PROVIDING MECHANICAL FASTENERS ON DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES	Date:	April 3, 1997

Preliminary Amendment

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner preliminarily amend the specification and claims of the instant application as indicated below.

In the Claims

Cancel 1-34

Please cancel claims 21, 29-31, 33, 34, 52, and 53 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed thereby.

Please add the following new claims:

35. A package of disposable absorbent articles comprising a plurality of said disposable absorbent articles wherein each of said disposable absorbent articles includes an outer cover, a bodyside liner, an absorbent core disposed between said outer cover and said bodyside liner, and at least one mechanical fastener, wherein said at least one mechanical fastener is releasably engaged with said disposable absorbent article to protect said mechanical fastener before said disposable absorbent article is handled by a user.
36. The package of disposable absorbent articles according to claim 35 wherein said mechanical fastener is a hook-and-loop type mechanical fastener which comprises a hook material which includes a base sheet and stemlike projections extending from said base sheet,